

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 357

By Yarbro

A RESOLUTION to honor Catherine "Katy" Varney on her thirty years of partnership at MP&F Strategic Communications and to congratulate her on her well-deserved retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should honor those who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their professional careers; and

WHEREAS, Catherine Varney is one such estimable person who has served with probity for thirty years with MP&F Strategic Communications; and

WHEREAS, Catherine "Katy" Varney joined MP&F in 1993 and, along with her partners, grew the agency to become the largest locally owned marketing, public relations, and advertising firm in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, a native of Chattanooga, Katy Varney spent her early career working on the White House staffs of First Lady Rosalynn Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale. She soon made her way home to Tennessee and served as former Governor Ned McWherter's chief lobbyist on Capitol Hill; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Varney has been doggedly invested in the continued pursuit of the betterment of life for all Tennesseans through her work on initiatives such as the Tennessee District Attorneys' "Meth Destroys" statewide education and awareness campaign and the opening of the Votes for Women Room in the Nashville Public Library's Main Library; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Ms. Varney has led countless initiatives in conjunction with multiple Davidson County metropolitan government administrations that have quantifiably improved the lives of Nashvillians, including the "Curby" recycling education initiative; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty-five years, Katy Varney has led MP&F account teams handling communications and national advertising on behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor's

Job Corps program, an initiative that offers free on-premise career training and education for young adults ages sixteen through twenty-four across the country; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Varney has been active in countless civic causes and organizations, including the boards of YWCA of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, the Nashville Public Library Foundation, and WPLN public radio; and

WHEREAS, a generation of MP&F alumni and current staffers regard Katy Varney as the bold, high-spirited redhead who created the company's legendary staff retreats, revere her for snuggling countless employees' babies and maintaining a toy corner in her corner office, and appreciate the countless homecooked meals she has delivered to many, many friends, family members, colleagues, and strangers while continuing to hold down the fort at work and hold court at home during the past forty-plus years of her professional life; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Varney exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Catherine "Katy" Varney on her partnership and career at MP&F Strategic Communications and extend to her well wishes for every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.